Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: With reference to part (*b*) of the answer, may I know what action the Government have taken?

Rao Bahadur A. Rengasvami Aiyar: Copy of the report has been forwarded to the Board of Directors.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Did Government get any reply from the Board of Directors?

Rao Bahadur A. Rengasvami Aiyar: No.

Vending of stamp paper.

23. ***Mr. J. John Kattakayam:** Will the Government be pleased to atate:

(*a*) whether it is an offence if stamp papers, though the sale thereof is vested in the vendors, are bought of persons other than vendors:

(*b*) the object of the endorsement on the stamp paper;

(*c*) whether vendors of stamp papers at times keep back stamp papers for their convenience and at the same time account for them;

(*d*) the necessity for the endorsement when any stamp paper, though bought by or for any body, may be used by any person at will; and

(*e*) whether the law enjoins that the stamp paper can be old only to a certain extent?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: (*a*) It does not appear to be an offence.

(*b*) & (*d*) It helps to trace the source from which the stamp paper was obtained, so that the making and sale of counterfeit stamps may be avoided. It also enables the refunding authority to verify the date of sale, etc., in cases of applications for refund of the misused or spoilt stamp papers.

(*c*) Government are not aware.

(*e*) The answer is in the negative.

Market at Muttam.

24. ***Mr. J. John Kattakayam:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether land was acquired, after the preliminary proceedings extending to two or three years, for opening a new market at the 5th mile on the Todupuzha-Arakulam road in the Karikode pakuthi, Todupuzha taluk, and whether the *sannad* therefor given after the market was auctioned and whether the local inhabitants have built many buildings including two-storied ones and are carrying on trade expecting that the market would be opened immediately;

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